

Second Sunday before Lent (Sexagesima) 23rd February 2025

Collect

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading (Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-25)

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up-for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground- then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of

my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, this one was taken." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Psalm (Psalm 65)

Response: They shout and sing for joy!

You care for the earth, give it water,
You fill it with riches,
Your river in heaven brims over
To provide the grain. R

And thus you provide for the earth;
You drench its furrows,
You level it, soften it with showers,
You bless its growth. R

The hills are girded with joy,
The meadows covered with flocks,
The valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. R

Second Reading (Revelation 4)

A reading from the Revelation to John.

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,
"Holy, holy, holy,
the Lord God the Almighty,

who was and is and is to come." And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,
"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created."

Gospel Reading (Luke 8:22-25)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke. One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?"

Post Communion

God our creator, by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly
paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on
earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For your prayers

In our Prayers: Hugh, Josh, Diane Rankin, Lloyd Whitney, Diane, Trevor, Vera, Chris Hall, Tommy Lacken, Sue, Kathy, Maria Amparo Garcia, Maria, Lenny Shaw, Pat, Vanessa, Eamon Irvine, HM King Charles, Steve, Tracey Sanderson, Fr Michael Shier, Michelle Ferguson, Maria Vaccaro, Robert Russell, Carol Martin, Nancy Campling, Philomena Sorrenti, Martin Fletcher, Jan Bone, Francis Burrows. Fr Peter Rabin, Lynn Williamson, Ms Rebecca Quansah, Dr Alfred Kwasi Kwarteng.

Among the departed: Joyce Warr, Eileen McDonagh, June Francis, Jimmy Burke.

Anniversaries of Death: Elizabeth McMillan, Sybil Ford, Madeleine Scoot, Phoebe Gibson, Ada Millicent Hosken, Robert Salmond

In the parish: We pray for Bath Street and St Lukes' Primary School

In the wider world: We pray for a just and lasting peace between Ukraine and Russia, and pray for all those with authority and influence who are seeking an end to the war.

Notices

In Church this week

Wednesday Open Church 10am-1pm
12.30pm Mass

Next Sunday Sunday next before Lent

10.30am Sung Mass

Helpers needed after Mass!

Can you help out after Sunday Mass? There's plenty to do clearing up and putting things away once refreshments are finished. If you can please speak to Elaine or Father David.

King Square Coffee

Community Room, Blackwell House
(between President House and Rahere House)
Tuesday afternoons 1.30-3.30pm
Friday afternoons 12.30-2pm
A chance to chat with your neighbour and catch up over coffee, tea, soup and sweet treats. Everyone welcome!

St. Clement's Church is very grateful for all donations to our work. To donate now please scan the QR code below. You can use debit or credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Many thanks!

